GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN TRIBAL AREAS
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the infrastructure like roads, communications, health, education and drinking water etc. in tribal areas is inadequate and inferior in comparison to the rest of the country:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to accelerate the pace of development of infrastructure in the tribal areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government intend to bring socio-economic development of tribal areas at an accelerated rate; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.101 FOR 29th NOVEMBER, 2005 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN TRIBAL AREAS

As the tribal areas are generally remote, inaccessible and characterized by hilly and difficult terrain, the infrastructure like roads, communications, health, education and drinking water, etc. in these areas is generally not at par in comparison to the rest of the areas of the country.

To bridge the critical gaps in infrastructure viz. roads, bridges, irrigation, communications, health, education, drinking water, etc. in the tribal areas, Government of India provides grants under the Article 275 (1) of the Constitution to the State Governments. To focus on the infrastructure development, since 2000-01, the grants to the States are now being released against the specific projects in critical areas identified by the respective State Government. To increase the pace of development, new guidelines have been issued in the year 2002. In addition, Government has launched Bharat Nirman for infrastructure development in rural areas with respect to irrigation, road, rural housing, rural water supply, rural electrification and rural telecommunication connectivity, and tribal areas have also been included in the same.

Government of India provides grants to State Governments under the Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for income/ employment generation as well as for infrastructure incidental thereto, and also under the Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for filling the critical gap in the infrastructure in tribal areas for accelerated socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes and Tribal Areas of the country.